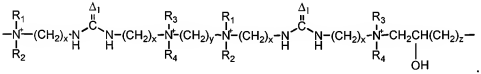
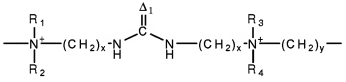
Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the at least polyamine includes the formula:

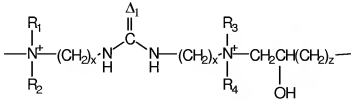


Support for this limitation can be found in claim 1 itself, which recites that the polyamine consists essentially of a first repeating unit with the general formula



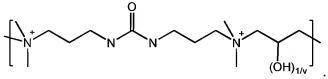
(1)

and a second repeating unit that has the general formula:

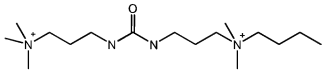


(2A)

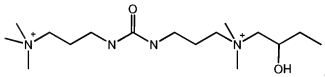
and claim 7, which recites that the at least one polyamine has the general formula:



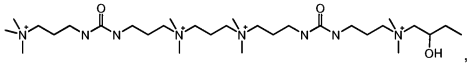
The formula recited in claim 7 encompasses a polymer consisting of two subunits, i.e.,



and



, and would include the formula

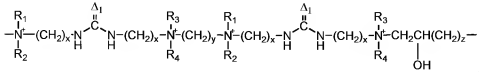


, which is encompassed by the formula recited in claim 1. Accordingly, the present amendment further narrows independent claim 1 to subject matter that was already under consideration as evidenced by claim 7.

35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1-2 and 7

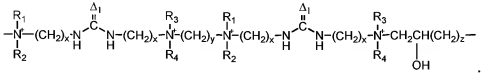
Claims 1-2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 00/14305 ('305) in view of Sonntag et al. (US Patent No. 6,652,728 B1) and Fenyes et al. (US Patent No. 4,506,081).

As discussed above, claim 1 was amended to recite that the polyamine includes the formula:



.

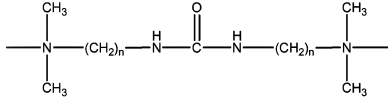
Claim 1 as amended is not obvious over Sonntag et al. in view of Fenyes et al. because neither reference teaches a polyamine that includes the formula:



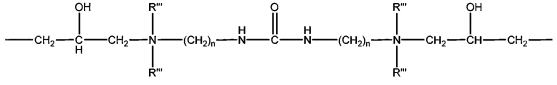
Sonntag et al. do not teach a polyamine that includes the above noted formula. Fenyes et al. likewise do not teach a polyamine that includes the above noted formula. Fenyes et al. as noted in the previous Office Action teach a polyamine having the general structure:

A-B-R-B-A,

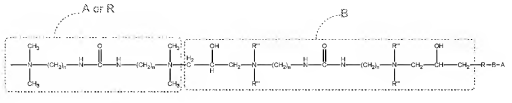
where A and R can have the following general structure:



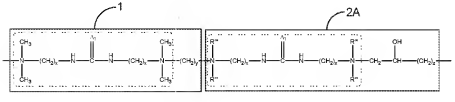
Fenyes et al., also teach that B has the following general structure:



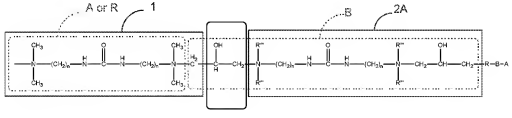
As discussed in Applicants previous response, a polyamine as described in Fenyes et al. would have the following general structure shown below, where A or R is identified by the first dashed red box and B is identified by the second dashed red box:



As shown below, the polyamine of claim 1 includes an alkyl group that separates adjacent (dimethylamino)alkylurea groups (or (dimethylamino)alkylguanidine or (dimethylamino)alkylthioureas) as opposed to an alcohol group as illustrated in the polyamine of Fenyes et al.

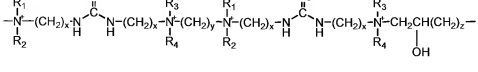


Polyamine of claim 1



Fenyes et al.

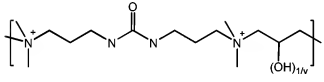
Therefore, Feynes et al. do not teach a polyamine that includes the formula:



because the polyamine of Feynes et al. would always include an alcohol group that separates adjacent (dimethylamino)alkylurea groups (or (dimethylamino)alkylguanidine or (dimethylamino)alkylthioureas). Accordingly, Sonntag et al. and Feynes et al. fail to teach the polyamine recited in claim 1 and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

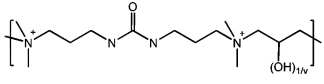
Claims 2 depends directly from claim 1, and therefore should be allowed because of the aforementioned deficiencies in the rejection with respect to claim 1 and because of the specific limitations recited in claims 2.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and further recites a polyamine having the general formula:



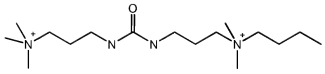
where v is an integer greater than 1.

Claim 7 is not obvious over Sonntag et al. in view Fenyes et al. because neither reference teaches a polyamine that includes the formula:

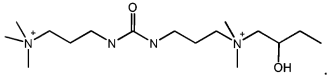


where v is an integer greater than 1.

As discussed above, the formula recited in claim 7 encompasses a polymer consisting of two subunits, i.e.,

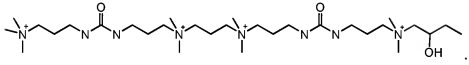


and



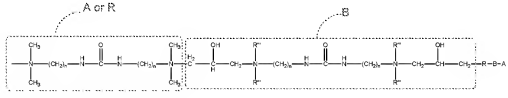
.

A polymer as recited in claim 7 would include the formula:



.

As discussed above, with respect to claim 1, Sonntag et al. do not teach a polyamine that includes the above noted formula. Fenyes et al. teach a polymer having the following general structure shown below, where A or R is identified by the first dashed red box and B is identified by the second dashed red box:



A polyamine having the above noted structure as taught by Fenyes et al. would include an alcohol group that separates adjacent (dimethylamino)alkylurea groups and not an alkyl group as recited in claim 7. Accordingly, Sonntag et al. and

Feynes et al. fail to teach the polyamine recited in claim 7 and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition of allowance and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this matter to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

/Richard A. Sutkus/
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Reg. No. 43,941

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